

COUNTRY Eastern Germany

SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Organizational Changes in the Volkspolizei

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DATE PREPARED 29 August 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 20 June 1952, [redacted] leading officers of the Main Administration of the Volkspolizei who had gone to Moscow in connection with the proposed reorganization of the HMVP, had not returned. *

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2. On 22 June 1952, [redacted] the Volkspolizei office in Land Brandenburg which was located on, or near, Ernst Thaelmann Strasse, Potsdam, would be deactivated, probably on 1 July. This office was to be replaced by three medium-placed police agencies with the designation of Praesidium der Volkspolizei which were scheduled to be located in Potsdam, Frankfurt/Oder and Cottbus. Each of these offices was to control a number of districts comparable to the present rural districts in which Volkspolizei offices were in existence. No information was available on the personnel of these three offices. [redacted] however, that Rettig (fnu), previously commanding officer of the Volkspolizei office in the Kreis would be appointed as commanding officer of the office in Frankfurt/Oder. **

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3. [redacted] on 22 June that a Volkspolizei company of about 150 police was expected to arrive soon at the Volkspolizei office in Kreis Frankfurt/Oder. The police were scheduled to be quartered in the building of the office and in tents. Six tents, each with a capacity of about 25 men, were pitched in the yard of the office. ***

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- * [redacted] Comment. [redacted] four new so-called section headquarters (Abteilungsstaeb) would be established in the border police and that each would control several Bereitschaften of the border police. This unconfirmed report gained credibility in conjunction with the information on the planned deactivation of the Volkspolizei agencies in the Laender. The section headquarters would then have to assume the functions of command headquarters which were previously performed by the agencies in the Laender. Berlin, Schwerin, Magdeburg and Weimar are allegedly to become the seats of these four section headquarters.

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- ** [redacted] Comment. The information in paragraphs 1 and 2 tend to indicate that the organizational changes are being prepared or, at least, discussed. VP Kommandeur Rettig (fnu) was reportedly mentioned as chief of the Volkspolizei office in Kreis Frankfurt/Oder.

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- *** [redacted] Comment. When the agencies of the Volkspolizei in the Laender are deactivated, it is probable that the guard battalions and other special units under their control will also be reassigned. The VP company expected to arrive in Frankfurt/Oder might be a component of the guard battalion of the Volkspolizei agency in Land Brandenburg.

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